REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the subject application as amended herein.

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Advisory Action mailed on September 20,

2005. Claims 1-27 are presented for examination. Claims 1, 10, and 19 have been amended.

No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-2, 5-6

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, as amended, is not obvious over the combination

of Provino and Kang. Independent claim 1, as amended, states:

> A method comprising:
> a processor executing a BIOS routine by receiving information from at least a first computing system unit, the information comprising at least one of error information, status information, and configuration information;
> the processor executing the BIOS routine by storing the received information in a memory;
> for a second computing system unit,
> the processor executing the BIOS routine by receiving an initial request from the second computing system unit for the received information;
> the processor executing the BIOS routine by providing to the second computing system unit in response to the received request at least one of the received information stored in the memory before the receipt of the initial request if any is stored; and
> the processor executing the BIOS routine by providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the initial request. (Amended claim 1) (emphasis added).

In the Amendment after final dated August 24, 2005, the Applicant argued that

neither Provino nor Kang teaches or suggests, providing to the second computing system unit

"at least one of the received information stored in the memory before the receipt of the initial

request", and "at least one of the received information received subsequent to the initial

request."

In the Advisory Action of Sep. 20, 2005, the Examiner stated:

Provino teaches in response to a request from an applications program or other virtual
device driver including a particular identifier, the registry 20 provide the calling

information associated with the identifier to the requester (co. 4, ln 7-12)/ If the registry 20 find such an entry, it returns the calling information in the entry to the requesting application program (co. 4, ln 60-65/col 6, ln 28-30).

(Advisory Action, Page 2).

However, the Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that the Examiner consider the following language in Provino:

> As part of the call, the virtual device driver 21 includes its identifier and calling information. The registry 20 initially searches through the linked list 30 to determine whether an entry 30(n) already exists for that identifier in identifier field 32(n) (step 53). If the registry determines in step 53 that such an entry 30(n) exists, the registry 20 returns a corresponding value to so notify the virtual device driver 21 (step 54). On the other hand, if the registry 20 determines in step 53 that no such entry 30(n) exists, it creates an entry 30(n) for the information (step 55). (Provino, col. 4, lines 28-42, emphasis added).

Provino further discloses that during the operational phase,

> the registry 20 finds such an entry, it returns the calling information in the entry to the requesting applications program/virtual device driver (step 64). On the other hand, if the registry 20 in step 63 does not find an entry 30(n) whose identifier field 33(n) contains a value corresponding to the identifier provided by the applications program/virtual device driver, it returns an error value (step 65). (Provino, col. 4, lines 61-67).

Thus, Provino discloses that the registry provides a stored identifier entry for an identifier or if one is not found, an error value, upon a function call. Provino does not disclose that the stored entry is "received information received **subsequent to the initial request.**"

Therefore, Provino does not teach or suggest "providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the initial request," as claimed.

Kang does not supply this missing element. Kang merely discloses a user interface device for a PC system capable of converting user interface data transmitted form an external input device to data that can be recognized by the PC system. Kang is also silent about providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the request.

Further, the Examiner has acknowledged that Provino does not teach receiving "information comprising at least one of error information, status information, and configuration information." The Examiner relies on Kang to supply this missing element. However, Kang merely discloses receiving and transmitting "key code data". (e.g., Kang, col. 3, lines 43-47). The "key code data" is key code data corresponding to the radio signal received from the remote controller and supplied to the interface controller. (Kang, col. 1, lines 46-47, col. 3; lines 42-46). Kang does not teach or suggest that the key code data is one of "error information, status information, and configuration information", as claimed.

Thus, Provino and Kang, either individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element of independent claim 1. Therefore, independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2, and 5-6 are not obvious over this combination.

Claims 10, 11, 14, 15

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 10, as amended, is not obvious over the combination of Provino and Kang. Independent claim 10, as amended, states:

> A machine-readable medium that provides instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause processor to perform operations comprising:
> during execution of a BIOS routine, receiving information from at least one first computing system unit, the information comprising at least one of error information, status information, and configuration information;
> during execution of the BIOS routine, storing the received information in a memory;
> for a second computing system unit,
> during execution of the BIOS routine, receiving an initial request for the received information from the second computing system unit;
> during execution of the BIOS routine in response to the initial request, providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the information stored in the memory before the receipt of the initial request if any is stored; and
> during execution of the BIOS routine, providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the initial request.

(Amended claim 10) (Emphasis Added). As discussed above, Provino and Kang, either individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest providing to the second

computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the initial request. Further, Provino and Kang, either individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest "one of error information, status information, and configuration information", as claimed. Therefore, independent claim 10 and dependent claims 11, 14, 15 are not obvious over this combination.

Claims 19, 20, 23, and 24

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 19, as amended, is not obvious over the combination of Provino and Kang. Independent claim 19, as amended, states:

> A computer that comprises:
> a stored BIOS program in a non-volatile memory that includes instructions that cause the computer to:
>> receive information from a first unit coupled to the computer, <u>the information comprising at least one of error information, status information, and configuration information;</u>
>> store the received information in a memory;
>> for a second unit coupled to the computer,
>>> receive an initial request for the information from the second unit;
>>> <u>in response to the initial request, provide to the second unit at least one of the information stored in the memory before the receipt of the initial request if any is stored, and</u>
>>> <u>provide to the second unit at least one of the received information to the second unit received subsequent to the initial request.</u>(Amended claim 19) (Emphasis Added).

As discussed above, Provino and Kang, either individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the initial request. Further, Provino and Kang, either individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest "one of error information, status information, and configuration information", as claimed. Therefore, independent claim 19 and dependent claims 20, 23-24 are not obvious over this combination.

Claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22

Claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Provino in view of Kang and further in view of PI (Persistor CF1 User's Manual BIOS Management Calls). Applicant respectfully submits that the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22.

PI discloses BIOS management calls. P1 does not teach or suggest the providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the initial request, as claimed in claims 1, 10 and 19. Further, P1 also does not teach or suggest "one of error information, status information, and configuration information", as claimed.

Thus, as none of Provino, Kang, or P1 teaches each and every limitation of claims 1, 10 and 19, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22, which depend from one of independent claims 1, 10 and 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

Claims 7-9, 16-18, 25-27

Claims 7-9, 16-18, 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Provino et al. in view of Kang and further in view of OSR (Using the NT Registry for Driver Install). Applicant respectfully submits that the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 17-9, 16-18, 25-27.

OSR discloses an NT device driver writer. OSR does not teach or suggest the providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the initial request, as claimed in claims 1, 10 and 19. Further, OSR

does not teach or suggest "one of error information, status information, and configuration information", as claimed.

Thus, as none of Provino, Kang, or OSR teaches each and every limitation of claims 1, 10 and 19, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 7-9, 16-18, 25-27, which depend from one of independent claims 1, 10 and 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.
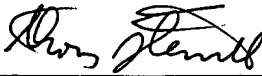
Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the rejections and objections have been overcome. A petition for an extension of time is submitted with this amendment. If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

If a telephone conference would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Tom Ferrill at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: October 20, 2005

Thomas S. Ferrill
Reg. No. 42,532
Tel.:(408) 720-8300

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026